

## Message Text

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SUBJECT: 27TH ICG/WFP, MARCH 17-25, 1975: RECONSTITUTION OF IGC

REF: A) ROME 3712

B) ROME 3803

/SUMMARY/. AFTER FULL DAY'S DEBATE, AGREEMENT REACHED ON RECONSTITUTED IGC OF 30 MEMBERS, WITH ONE BODY TO HANDLE BOTH OLD AND NEW FUNCTIONS. DRAFT RESOLUTION REPORTED PROVIDES BASIC FRAMEWORK, WITH LIMITED MODIFICATIONS, INCLUDING AMENDMENT TO PARAGRAPH 5(E). /END SUMMARY/

1. /DISCUSSION/ - AQUINO OPENED DISCUSSION BY OUTLINING HIS RECOMMENDATIONS FOR RECONSTITUTED IGC, INCLUDING FOLLOWING MAJOR POINTS: A) LIMITED MEMBERSHIP OF 30, B) ELECTION PROCEDURES SAME AS PRESENT IGC, WITH CURRENT MEMBERSHIP CONTINUING, C) REGULAR SESSION TWICE A YEAR, AND D) FUNCTIONS BASED ON WFC RESOLUTIONS, WITH ITEM 5(E) REF (A) ADDED AS COROLLARY AND NATURAL EXTENSION.

2. CHAIRMAN EMPHASIZED THAT RECONSTITUTED IGC WILL SEND UNCLASSIFIED

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RECOMMENDATIONS TO WORLD FOOD COUNCIL, UNGA AND FAO AND WILL

NOT ITSELF BE A DECISION-MAKING BODY ON FOOD AID POLICIES.

3. U.S. OPENED COUNTRY STATEMENTS, EMPHASIZING POINTS PER POSITION PAPER AND REF (B) AS FOLLOWS: A) PREFER GROUP OF 24, ALTHOUGH WOULD NOT DISMISS OUT OF HAND CONSIDERATION OF 30 AS UPPER LIMIT, B) NEED ONE BODY WITH BALANCE BETWEEN DONORS AND RECIPIENTS, C) SUPPORT FUNCTIONS ENDORSED BY WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE IN PARAGRAPH 5, REF (A), BUT CONCERNED BY 5(E) BECAUSE TOO BROAD AND SEEPING AND COULD BE CONSTRUED AS GIVING RECONSTITUTED IGC LICENSE TO HANDLE FUNCTIONS WHICH BETTER HANDLED ELSEWHERE, LIKE 10 MILLION-TON GOAL, AND D) SEE COMMITTEE AS EMPHASIZING COORDINATION PROJECT AND EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE BUT NOT COVERING VOLUME, TERMS AND COMMODITY COMPOSITION LONG-TERM CREDIT SALES, WHICH SUBJECT BILATERAL DETERMINATION.

4. THEREAFTER, MAJORITY MEMBERS, INCLUDING SAUDI ARABIA, JAPAN, INDIA, FRG, PAKISTAN, MALAWI, NETHERLANDS, SWEDEN, CHILE, NORWAY AND SUDAN BACKED ONE BODY FOR OLD AND NEW FUNCTIONS, WITH EXPANSION UP TO 30 MEMBERS. SOME SAID THEY WOULD BE SATISFIED WITH A GROUP LARGER THAN 30 BUT WOULD BE GUIDED BY IGC MAJORITY OPINION.

5. SMALLER GROUP INCLUDING BELGIUM (OBSERVER), CANADA, FRANCE, INDONESIA, TUNISIA, AND U.K. EXPRESSED PREFERENCE FOR TWO COMMITTEES: A) A SUBSTANTIALLY ENLARGED OR OPEN-ENDED POLICY COMMITTEE AND ?) A SMALLER COMMITTEE TO HANDLE REGULAR IGC FUNCTIONS.

6. REGARDING FUNCTIONS OF RECONSTITUTED IGC, ONLY JAPAN JOINED IN QUESTIONING 5(E). OTHERS WERE CONCERNED AT U.S. POSITION, INTERPRETING IT TO MEAN WE FELT RECONSTITUTED IGC SHOULD HAVE NO ROLE IN FOLLOW-UP ON RESOLUTION 18 RECOMMENDATIONS. AFTER NOON RECESS AND FURTHER INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS, COMMITTEE AGREED RECOMMEND DRAFT RESOLUTION REPORTED REF (A) FOR ONE BODY OF 30 MEMBERS TO HANDLE FUNCTIONS OUTLINED PARA 5, WITH ADOPTION U.S. PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO 5(E), SUBSTITUTING WORDING "REVIEW PERIODICALLY" FOR "KEEP UNDER REVIEW" THE IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS BY WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE ON FOOD AID POLICIES. WHILE WORDING IS UNCLASSIFIED

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SIMILAR, U.S. TOOK OCCASION TO PUT ON RECORD THAT WE WOULD PREFER TO ELIMINATE 5(E); HOWEVER, WE FELT THERE WOULD THEN BE MISINTERPRETATION U.S. MOTIVES. WE DID NOT WISH TO ELIMINATE IGC ROLE IN KEEPING UP TO DATE ON FOLLOW-UP OF WFC RESOLUTIONS BUT NOTED A) OTHER BODIES, BOTH INSIDE AND OUTSIDE THE UN, WILL ALSO BE HANDLING FOLLOW-UP AND B) RECONSTITUTED IGC SHOULD NOT HAVE INTERMEDIARY ROLE OR RESPONSIBILITY OVER IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS ELSEWHERE. CHANGE

AND EXPLANATION ACCEPTED BY COMMITTEE WITHOUT DEBATE. BEFORE THIS AMENDMENT WAS OFFERED AND ACCEPTED ON THE FLOOR, U.S. DEL HAD TAKEN SOUNDINGS WITH HEADS OF MOST DELEGATION AND FOUND NO SUPPORT FOR AN ELIMINATION OF 5(E) EVEN AMONG THE MAJOR DONORS.

6. /COMMENT/. U.S. HAS ARGUED THAT BEFORE AN OPERATION IS PERFORMED, THE PATIENT SHOULD FIRST BE CONSULTED. FOR SOME TIME NOW, WE HAVE PUSHED TO ENSURE THAT THE 27TH IGC SESSION WOULD CONSIDER RECONSTITUTION BEFORE MATTER IS TOSSED INTO FAO COUNCIL, ECOSOC, THE FAO CONFERENCE AND THE UNGA. WITHOUT EXCEPTION THE IGC MEMBERS STRESSED IMPORTANCE OF SMALL, WORKABLE GROUP AND MOST (INCLUDING LDC'S) POINTED TO IMPORTANCE OF BALANCE BETWEEN DONORS AND RECIPIENTS. THIS LATTER ATTITUDE WAS MOST BLUNTLY STATED TO U.S. WHEN PAKISTAN AMBASSADOR SAID, "WE MUST KEEP A BALANCE IN IGC BECAUSE WE KNOW ON WHICH SIDE OUR BREAD IS BUTTERED."

7. WE NOW HAVE IGC AGREEMENT ON A DRAFT WHICH, IN THE MAIN, IS SATISFACTORY TO THE U.S. WHEN THE ITEM IS CONSIDERED BY FAO COUNCIL AND ECOSOC THIS SUMMER WE SHOULD TRY TO ENSURE THAT THE COALITION OF DEVELOPED AND DEVELOPING COUNTRY MEMBERS OF IGC SHO ARE ALSO MEMBERS OF FAO COUNCIL AND ECOSOC WILL CLOSE RANKS AND KEEP THE TEXT INTACT. UNFORTUNATELY THIS MAY BE DIFFICULT IF UK AND FRANCE CONTINUE PUSH TWO-COMMITTEE LINE AND IF THEY SHOULD GAIN SUPPORT FROM NON-IGC MEMBERS. VOLPE

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